

## How the Arnold-Dickson Frauds Operated

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Dummies and marionettes covered with the luminous "robes" could thus be made to appear and converse with the people in the audience, completely fooling them.

Arnold and Dickson played on the fears of their dupes, as well as on the more tender feelings of their hearts, and thus protected themselves from exposure. Arnold frequently warned the audiences that they must never by any chance touch one of the "spirit" forms, because the slightest contact with one by a living person would cause the instant death of the medium in the trance, and would cause the spirit to wander through endless ages, upon the earth, unable to return to its own sphere in the "land of springtime." In that way the dupes were kept at a distance from the "spirits."

While Dickson was in the cabinet, concealed from the audience by the heavy curtains, where he had ample opportunity to make frequent changes of costume, and aided by one or more confederates to impersonate many "spirits," Arnold was at the door, controlling the lights. With his hand on the dimmer switch, he could increase or reduce the flow of light as occasion demanded. With the switch controlling the three clusters of lights set so high on the wall that it would have been almost impossible for one desiring to expose the fraud by throwing on the lights, to have reached the switch without first having first having overpowered Arnold and his friends who sat near him. In the melee which would have resulted from such an attempt, Dickson would have had an opportunity to conceal the "spirit" robes, and an opportunity to slip into the audience during the excitement.

### Music Prevents Noises.

The playing of the music box between "materializations" effectively drowned the slight noises that occurred during the changes of costume on the stage behind the curtain.

The "spirit robes," which glimmered and shimmered in the almost total darkness of the room, and which were accentuated by the black hangings which formed the background, were especially prepared. It is not known to any outside the business what preparation is used to make the cheesecloth, of which the robes are made, throw off light. It is known, however, that phosphorus enters largely into the composition of this material. There is a

large business house in Philadelphia which makes a specialty of supplying these robes, and the luminous material with which they are coated for "the trade." This house also supplies all other stage settings and accessories needed to produce well developed "spirits" of all sizes, ages and conditions.

Arnold and Dickson had a thoroughly established information bureau while they operated here. Among their dupes, and possibly their confederates, were men and women who were in positions to supply them with all sorts of information concerning the private and business affairs of their dupes. It is known that many business men consulted the faking "brothers" with regard to investments. From sources which they possessed for securing information, they were advised as to what specific speculations their clients were interested in.

Both Arnold and Dickson possessed wonderful memories for names and faces. They seldom or never forgot a name or face, and could always recall a person's name after seeing him once. They never made a mistake in addressing one by a wrong name. This remarkable memory enabled them to gather bits of information concerning hundreds of persons, which information they used to mystify their patrons.

### Brothers Always Cautious.

It was noticeable that the first "reading" (at \$1) was not as satisfactory as subsequent readings. Another fact that was noticeable was that one could never get a reading for the first time without having made an appointment. The name was always required when the appointment was made. This gave the medium time to secure a "line" on the sitter. At subsequent readings, Dickson or the housekeeper met the sitter at the door and took the name to Arnold, who gave "consultations on all the affairs of life."

Arnold was never ready to give a reading as soon as a patron appeared, unless he had made several readings prior to that time. The Herald had prepared on different occasions during some time past to make a full exposure of the methods of these grafters, but was outwitted each time prior to the present exposure by the pair, who became suspicious. At various times efforts were made by this paper to secure evidence against these men, in order to show them up in the light, for what they were worth. It was found that they kept a careful watch on all newspaper offices, and familiarized themselves with the name and identity of each newspaper man

employed in the city. Not a man went to work on any of the local papers but that these men knew who he was before he had been in harness a week, and were prepared for him if he made his appearance at any meeting.

### Wide Information Utilized.

By reason of the vast knowledge these men had of the identity and business of so many people, they were able to strike so closely to the truth in answering many questions, that their patrons were surprised, and in a measure convinced of their ability to give real advice on the affairs of life.

It is likely that these men kept records of their patrons, their lines of business, personal characteristics, and the names of their dead relatives and friends were probably kept in the large burglar proof safe which the "brothers" had in their private office.

In the cases where shrewd and observing people laid traps to catch the pair, the "mediums" themselves were frequently deceived and were led into the error of making the most improbable statements, and to giving radical misinformation. For example, a man gave a fictitious name and asked that the spirit of his deceased grandmother be produced. The spirit was produced, though the grandmother was alive and well.

A woman went to the "spook factory" a short time ago at the request of The Herald, and gave a fictitious name, and asked that she be allowed to converse with the spirit of her brother who, she stated, had been dead for several years. The "spirit of the dead" was produced at her order. The "spirit" was "materialized" with little difficulty, by the medium, and under her clever questioning was led to make many grossly inaccurate statements. Almost anything that the woman wanted the "spirit" to say, it obligingly said. This was a gallant ghost, and for fear of displeasing his fair auditor, would not make any statement that would oppose her in her views.

### Brother Didn't Miss His Spirit.

The brother whose "spirit" this was supposed to be, sat at that moment in his office not a half-mile away busily engaged in the work of the day. He was not noticed to be particularly absentminded during the time of the "materialization," and denied that he had noted the absence of his spirit from his body during the progress of the seance.

This is one example of many similar experiences that the Arnold-Dickson "brothers" have had with The Herald and its representatives, and shows how The Herald had prepared itself for the exposures which were made last week.

and which the notorious "brothers" were not courageous enough to face.

### Nerve in the Mediums.

The method by which the written messages, which never left the hands of the writers, were read by Arnold, was explained fully by Mrs. Green, who charged Arnold with having developed the second sheet of the tablet on which she had written. It was shown that the sheet under the one on which the questions were written could be easily developed, the imprint of the pencil, and the prepared paper used, making this a simple matter which any school boy or girl could duplicate.

These few simple tricks gave to the Arnold-Dickson "brothers" a rich harvest field, which yielded to them a fortune. By these simple feats oflegerdemain, in which in many instances "the hand was quicker than the eye," and in which a superabundance of what is commonly termed "nerve" played a leading part, Arnold and Dickson built around themselves what they considered an impenetrable fortress.

That they have had their loyal supporters is true, and many, even in the light of The Herald's exposures, will remain true to them. But thinking men and women, who have been entranced and deceived by them, and are of broad enough mind to admit that they have been duped, will welcome the disclosures of the cleverest pair of grafters that probably has ever visited Salt Lake.

### Arnold Supplied the Brains.

The origin of George J. Arnold is not known to any of his local followers, nor by those who have been trying for months to bring about the exposure of his methods. Arnold was the shrewd, scheming, designing, unscrupulous head of the Arnold-Dickson "brothers." It was he who executed the most difficult work of the pair, and it was his wit and cleverness that aided them in gaining such a large following.

Arnold was the business head of the firm, and had charge of the financial affairs. It was he who paid the bills and took charge of the cash. Arnold conducted the Sunday night meetings, the Thursday night meetings and gave private readings at \$1 each. He also financed the \$5 private materializations, though Dickson was the star performer in these.

Arnold was not highly educated, though he claimed to have been a Methodist minister at one time. In his addresses he would frequently betray the shallowness of his education. When he could not gain a point by flattery, or by playing on the superstitions of his dupes, he would bulldoze and threaten them.

Arnold was of medium height, and was well developed. He was of dark

complexion, with dark hair and eyes. He was said to have possessed hypnotic powers which he is alleged to have exercised on his victims.

### Dickson a Freak.

James J. Dickson is a freak who was picked up by Arnold. He had some ability along the lines in which Arnold designed to use him. He was frail and effeminate, with a thin, lisping voice. His light hair and washed-out eyes appealed strongly to few, while his ladylike manners made him disliked by men.

Dickson "played second fiddle" in all the business of the pair with the exception of the fact that he was the "trance medium" who aided in the materialization seances.

The pair operated in San Francisco until they were driven out, whence they went to Honolulu. Arnold claimed to have been a single man, but it is stated that he deserted a wife and family of children when he went to Honolulu. They were banished from the islands and went to Los Angeles, and from Los Angeles they came here after that city became too small for them.

### TRICKS OF CLEVER MEDIUMS TOO HARD

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own. Madame Blavatsky would be working the freed hand overtime slapping her sitters, ringing bells and performing the numerous other things supposed to be the work of "spirit" hands.

### Many Other Performances.

These tricks are but a few of the thousand and one figured out by spiritualists and mediums for the entertainment and deception of lovers of the mysterious. Mystery is nothing more than an unexplained deception or occurrence. Nothing has been said of the hands which float through the obscurely lighted materialization rooms. Nothing has been said of the horns which are blown while floating in the air. These are common in the realm of spookdom and ridiculously simple when explained. The hands which are often seen flitting and hovering near the ceiling are nothing more than paper mache creations dipped in phosphorus and stuck on the end of a collapsible rod or pulled along an invisible wire. The collapsible rod makes the mysterious horn blowing easy. Nothing has been said of the double-slate writing, in which a message written on the inside surface of a tightly bound slate. A piece of chalk covering a small steel ball placed between the covers of the slate and a magnet in the skillful hands of a practiced medium are working tools in this, one of the most startling tricks ever produced by the world-renowned Slade.

### COLORADO EXCURSIONS.

Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Round trip \$17.75. Sept. 21-22-23, limit Oct. 10th. Stopovers allowed via Colorado Midland. Observation Sleeping and Dining Cars.

Why pay \$4.00 elsewhere; our price is \$2.00. McCarty Hat Co., 26 E. 2d So., Wilson Hotel Annex.

Take a chance at Rieger & Lindley's rebus contest on the sporting page.

## ANOTHER CRASH AT THE LATE Tom & Jerry Clothing Store

FOR MONDAY AND ALL THIS WEEK THE FOLLOWING CUTS WILL PREVAIL:

THE BALANCE OF OUR MONARCH, IMPERIAL AND MANHATTAN SHIRTS WILL GO AT	25¢
Not more than 3 to a customer.	
50 PAIRS MEN'S WORK PANTS, GOOD VALUES \$2.75 AND \$3.00. NOW	\$1.25
MEN'S CORDUROY SUITS, cheap at \$15.00 and \$18.00. All this week	\$6.35
MEN'S SOFT FELT HATS, LATE STYLES, IN PEARL TAN, BROWN AND BLACK, good values at \$3.00 and \$3.50. Now	\$1.00
MEN'S WORK SHIRTS, EACH	40¢
FLEECE-LINED AND RIBBED UNDERWEAR, THE KIND THAT USUALLY SELLS FOR \$1.25, \$1.50. Now, a Suit	75¢
MEN'S AND BOYS' LINEN COLLARS, per dozen	65¢

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LATE TOM AND JERRY CLOTHING STORE.

# The Entire Stock of The I. X. L. FURNITURE AND CARPET INSTALLMENT HOUSE

(With the exception of the Barbers' Supplies and Safes.)

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## BOUGHT!

AND IT IS TO BE SOLD AGAIN BY

**T. W. Daniel, the 5% Stock Mover,**  
**AT FROM 1-4 TO 1-2 OFF**

WILL YOU BE AT THE SALE?

And make the best use of your money that you ever have, for there never has been, nor will there be again, such an opportunity to handle your spare Cash to so good an advantage. It has taken the money to own the stock, and it will take the same medium of exchange for me to part with it.

The Buyer has Bought it Cheap Enough to Give the People of Utah an Opportunity to Furnish Their Homes as Never Before, and will Close Out the Entire Four Floors at a

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From Prevailing Prices, as THE STORE MUST BE VACATED for the incoming tenant. Every inducement is now offered you to Save Borrow, Hire, Beg or Stand Off Your Creditors—anything to get the Cash for this occasion. To illustrate All Wool Carpets 1-4 of the regular prices. Linoleum \$1.00 per yard. Rugs and Art Squares 1-3 off regular price. And all other Carpets 1-4 to 1-3 off the regular prices.

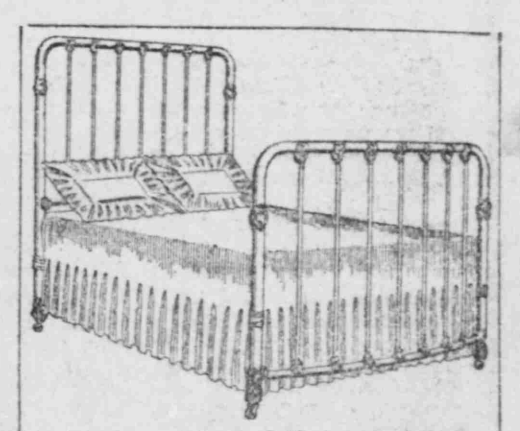
Sale from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.



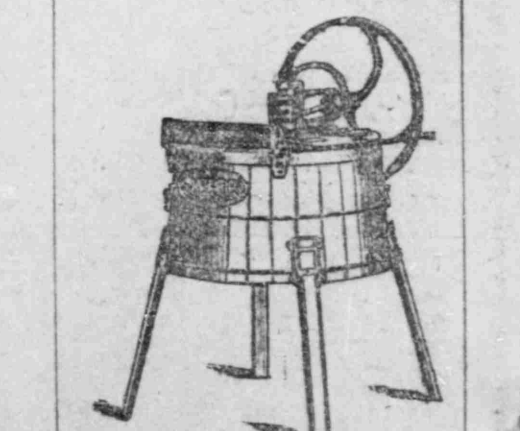
1/2 to 1-3 Off the Regular Price.



-3 to 1/2 Off the Regular Price.



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Majestic Washer—\$8.50 Ones for \$6.00. Matchless—\$9.00 Ones for \$6.00.



Woven Wire Covered Steel Couches \$4.50.



1-5 to 1-3 Off the Regular Price.



1-3 to 1/2 Off the Regular Price.



1/4 Off the Regular Price.



Almost 1/4 Off the Regular Price.



1/2 to 1-3 Off the Regular Price on all Tables.



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